

## INDIANA HEALTH RESOURCES:

### 2004 UPDATE

by Frances A. Brahmi



In 1982, I compiled a chapter on Indiana health information resources that was published by the Midwest Health Science Library Network: *Basic Library Management for Health Science Librarians*,

*Indiana Edition*, 2nd edition. Since then,

the World Wide Web has become the provider of choice for such resources, making them more accessible and enabling them to be updated more frequently. This article updates the earlier compilation and includes Web addresses and annotations, as well links to useful databases. Not intended to be comprehensive, it may serve as a starting point for librarians new to Indiana.

The proliferation of medical information on the Web challenges our ability to find valid and reliable resources. The key is to critical appraisal of the information provided, based on a set of criteria. They include the most obvious, such as currency, accuracy, and authority, but also sponsorship and unstated biases. Stated more concisely: users need to consider who is providing the information and for what purpose. One of the best sites on the evaluation of Web information is located at <http://thorplus.lib.purdue.edu/~techman/eval.html>. This two-page guide is straightforward and answers the principal question of sponsorship and bias. Another excellent site is "10 Things to Know About Evaluating Medical Resources on the Web" located at <http://nccam.nih.gov/health/webresources>. This site addresses not only who runs the web site but also who pays for it. It covers information selection, currency, links to other sites, and what information it collects about you, the visitor.

Below is an annotated list of web sites which may prove to be useful for further research or initial introduction to Indiana health information resources.

#### HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIES

##### Ruth Lilly Medical Library

The only medical school library in the state has a large electronic and print collection of books, journals, and databases. It is affiliated with the Indiana University School of Medicine and located on the IUPUI campus. <http://www.medlib.iupui.edu>

##### Indiana University School of Dentistry Library

One of the few free-standing dental libraries in the nation, it supports the teaching, research, patient care and community outreach services of the faculty, staff and students of the Indiana University School of Dentistry and serves as a source of dental health information for IU School of Dentistry alumni, Indiana citizens and other dental health professionals.

<http://www.iusd.iupui.edu/Depts/Lib/>

##### Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences Library—Purdue University

This library supports the instructional and research activities of the Schools of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nursing, and Health Sciences.

<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/pnhs/>

##### Veterinary Medical Library—Purdue University

This library supports the curriculum and research programs of the School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) and the Lafayette Center for Medical Education (LCME).

<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/vetmed/>

##### Central Indiana Health Sciences Libraries Consortium

They offer awards of up to \$100 for professional development for member library staff. It also provides a link to the Midwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association's annual meeting.

<http://www.incolsa.net/~cihslc/>

##### Indiana Libraries for Consumer Health

Provides a list of Indiana libraries which provide consumer health information.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/libraries/indiana.html>

#### STATE RESOURCES

##### Indiana State Library

This library offers a variety of Indiana newspaper indexes, a genealogy division, and links to other Indiana libraries which may provide health information.

<http://www.statelib.lib.in.us>

##### Indiana University Clinical Trials Program

This site addresses both patients and investigators and includes a list of current clinical trials.

<http://medicine.iupui.edu/ctp/>

### Indiana State Department of Health

This site includes numerous links to health information, including Quick Sheets in both English and Spanish. It provides updates on such topics as Lyme Disease, Nile Virus, and hot weather tips.  
<http://www.state.in.us/isdh/>

### Indiana Public Health Information Network

Provides links to useful sites including government agencies, databases, and epidemiology and statistics.  
<http://www.medlib.iupui.edu/pbhealth/>

### Indiana Poison Center

This site provides emergency contact information as well as first aid and poison prevention. The information is provided in both English and Spanish.  
<http://www.clarian.org/portal/patients/clinical?clarianContentID=/clinical/poisoncontrol/index.xml>

### Indiana Pesticide Product Database

This database contains information on pesticide products registered in Indiana for the current year.  
<http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/doc/in/statein.html>

### Indiana Prevention Resource Center

Indiana's primary source for alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention resources. It provides links to Indiana surveys regarding prevalence of use.  
<http://www.drugs.indiana.edu/>

### Central Indiana Human Services Database

This database provides contact information for many of Central Indiana support, self-help, and service groups. It was previously referred to as the Rainbow Book.  
<http://www.imcpl.lib.in.us/cgi-bin/irntop.pl>

### Access Indiana

The Official Web Portal for the State of Indiana Offers an overview of general Indiana information and resources, including a health section. Health care licensing information may be the most helpful.  
<http://www.in.gov/>

## GENERAL HEALTH INFORMATION

### HealthWeb

HealthWeb is an award winning site created by medical librarians across the country on specific areas of health care, including health informatics. The resources have been reviewed before being included as links. It is updated regularly.  
<http://healthweb.ghsl.nwu.edu/>

### Medical Education Online

This site is "a forum for disseminating information on educating physicians and other health professionals."  
<http://www.med-ed-online.org/>

### Medical Directories from MedlinePlus

This site provides an extensive list of directories not

specific to Indiana.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/directories.html>

## HOSPITALS

### Indiana State Hospital Directory

This site is a directory of Indiana hospitals. Each major hospital in the Indianapolis area has its own website below. <http://www.state.in.us/isdh/regsvcs/acc/hospital/splash.htm>

### Major Indianapolis Hospitals

Clarian Health—Methodist IU Riley  
<http://www.clarian.org/>

### Community Health Network

<http://www.ecommunity.com/>

### St. Francis Hospital and Health Center

<http://www.stfrancishospitals.org/>

### St. Vincent Hospitals and Health Services

<http://www.stvincent.org/>

### Wishard Health Services

<http://www.wishard.edu/>

## INDIANA HEALTH ASSOCIATIONS

### Indiana Health Professions Bureau

This site provides useful links to the Indiana Department of Insurance, and the Indiana State Department of Health. It offers contact information about malpractice, state requirements for health care facilities, complaints about health practitioners and health care facilities. <http://www.ai.org/hpb/index.html>

### Indiana State Medical Association

The Indiana State Medical Association web site offers numerous links including HIPAA, the PDR, state and county medical societies, domestic violence materials, bioterrorism, and a doctor referral service called Doctor Details.  
<http://www.ismanet.org/>

### Indianapolis Medical Society

A membership group which produces the Pictorial Roster of Members, a useful resource for identifying physicians.  
<http://www.imsonline.org/>

### Indiana State Nurses Association

This association provides services to Indiana registered nurses and a comprehensive list of links to other nursing organizations.  
<http://www.indiananurses.org/>

### Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing

This society, whose headquarters are in Indianapolis, provides its members a number of resources through the Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library, literature and book reviews, publications, and continu-

ing education opportunities.  
<http://www.nursingsociety.org>

#### Indiana Hospital & Health Association

The Indiana Hospital & Health Association is the professional trade association for 157 Hoosier hospitals and health systems whose primary functions include advocacy, data management, communication, and education.

<http://www.inhha.org/>

#### John Shaw Billings History of Medicine Society

Named after a physician who transformed the Office of the Surgeon collection into the National Library of Medicine, it provides a link to the Ruth Lilly Medical Library special collections which emphasize the practice of medicine in 19th century Indiana and other Midwestern states. The collection contains approximately 1,600 book titles. Most of the titles are post-1800. Other resources include representative medical instruments and a file Index to Indiana medical obituaries.

<http://www.medlib.iupui.edu/hom/jsbinc.html>

### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

Special Libraries Association/Indiana Chapter

<http://www.in-sla.org/>

The Indiana Health Science Librarians' Association

<http://www.incolsa.net/%7Eihsla/>

Association for Indiana Media Educators

<http://www.ilfonline.org/Units/Associations/aime/>

American Society for Information Science and Technology/Indiana Chapter

<http://www.asis.org/Chapters/IASIS/index.html>

Indiana Academic Library Association

<http://www.ilfonline.org/Units/Associations/IALA/>

Indiana Library Association

<http://www.ilfonline.org/>

### REFERENCES

Basic Library Management for Health Science Librarians, Indiana Edition, (2nd ed.). (1982). Patricia Jones Wakeley and Ruby S. May, (Eds.). Chicago: Midwest Health Science Library Network.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Frances A. Brahmi ([fbrahmi@iupui.edu](mailto:fbrahmi@iupui.edu)) is Curriculum & Education Director at the Ruth Lilly Medical Library and Lifelong Learning Competency Director at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. She welcomes email contact regarding other useful resources and additions.